

**REMARKS/ARGUMENTS**

Claims 1-3, 6, 10-11, 14-23, 26-27, 31-33, 46, 50, and 53 are pending in this application. Claims 4, 5, 7-9, 12, 13 24-25, 28-30, 34-45, 47-49, 51-52, and 54-62 are canceled without prejudice.

**I. Status of the claims**

Independent claims 1, 21 and 46 have been amended to recite that “the polypeptide has at least 95% identity to the lbp-7 protein in Tables 3 and 6 and wherein the lbp-7 polypeptide is encoded by a nucleic acid that is expressed in *C. elegans* and is upregulated when daf-16 activity is inhibited and is downregulated when daf-2 activity is inhibited.” Support for this amendment can be found in dependent claims as previously amended.

**IV. Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, written description**

In view of the above amendments, withdrawal of the rejection for alleged lack of written description is respectfully requested.

**V. Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, enablement**

In view of the above amendments, withdrawal of the rejection for alleged lack of enablement is respectfully requested.

**VI. Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph**

In view of the above amendments, withdrawal of the rejections for alleged indefiniteness is respectfully requested.

**CONCLUSION**

In view of the foregoing, Applicants believe all claims now pending in this Application are in condition for allowance. The issuance of a formal Notice of Allowance at an early date is respectfully requested.

Appl. No. 10/536,635  
Amdt. dated May 22, 2009  
Reply to Office Action of January 22, 2009

PATENT

If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at 925-817-3130.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Annette S. Parent". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name being the most prominent.

Annette S. Parent  
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